

**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Kremmling Field Office  
2103 E. Park Ave.  
Kremmling, CO 80459**

**Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)**

***Upper Colorado River Recreation Management Plan*  
DOI-BLM-N02-2017-028**

**Background**

The Proposed Action would address the future management of the UCR SRMA. These activities would include overnight camping permits, designated river campsites, unlimited day use permits, the addition of roads and trails, closure to camping within ¼ mile of the river except at designated sites, and additional campground facilities.

**Finding of No Significant Impact**

Based upon a review of the EA and the supporting documents, I have determined that the Proposed Action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment, individually or cumulatively with other actions in the general area. No environmental effects meet the definition of significance in context or intensity, as defined at 40 CFR 1508.27 and do not exceed those effects as described in the Kremmling Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (2015). Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required. This finding is based on the context and intensity of the project as described below.

***Context***

The project is a site-specific action directly involving BLM administered public lands that do not in and of itself have international, national, regional, or state-wide importance.

***Intensity***

The following discussion is organized around the ten Significance Criteria described at 40 CFR 1508.27. The following have been considered in evaluating intensity for this Proposed Action:

**1. Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse.**

A permit system would negatively impact users looking for an unregulated/un-permitted river experience, by requiring visitors to plan ahead for limited camping permits, or to stop, pay a fee, and submit information for day use permits. On the opposite spectrum, users wanting fewer conflicts, a guaranteed river campsite, and a cleaner river would benefit from a permit system.

**2. The degree to which the Proposed Action affects public health or safety.**

The Proposed Action would improve public health and safety by restricting camping to designated campsites along the Upper Colorado River and implementing a day use and overnight permit system. Designated campsites would reduce impacts to water quality and public health from vegetation removal, soil compaction, runoff, erosion, and sedimentation, as well as reduce sanitation issues. A permit system would reduce user conflicts in a high-use backcountry recreation setting.

**3. Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.**

There are no park lands, prime farmlands, or ecologically critical areas within the project area. Cultural and historic resources, wetlands, and wild and scenic rivers would not be impacted by the Proposed Action.

**4. Degree to which the possible effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.**

No comments or concerns have been raised regarding possible effects on the quality of the human environment during scoping.

**5. Degree to which the possible effects on the quality of the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risk.**

No highly uncertain or unknown risks to the human environment were identified during analysis of the Proposed Action.

**6. Degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.**

The Proposed Action neither establishes a precedent for future BLM actions with significant effects nor represents a decision in principle about a future consideration. The implementation of permits was analyzed in the 2015 RMP/ROD.

**7. Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.**

There are no significant cumulative effects on the environment, either when combined with the effects created by past and present projects, or when combined with the effects from natural changes taking place in the environment from reasonably foreseeable future projects.

**8. The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed on the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.**

The Proposed Action would not adversely affect any districts, sites, highways, structures or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or cause loss or destruction of any scientific, cultural or historical resources.

**9. The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973.**

The project would not adversely affect any sensitive, threatened, endangered or proposed for listing species.

**10. Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.**

Neither the Proposed Action nor impacts associated with it violate any laws or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.

**Signature of Authorized Official**

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Field Manager

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Date